

REMARKS

Prior to discussing the above Amendment, Applicants, through their attorney wish to thank the Examiner as well as supervisory Examiner Swiatk for the courtesies extended during the November 18, 2002 personal interview. As reflected by the Interview Summary record, the independent claims were discussed and an indication was given that if the ranges from claims 13-15 were included in the independent claims, it may place the application into condition for allowance subject to checking the prior art once again.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 18 and 20 to include the limitation of the now cancelled dependent claim 13 which restricts the thermal emission factor to a value approximately 0.5 or less.

The Final Patent Office Action of April 17, 2003 contained a rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph with respect to the "improved" radiation exchange which was indicated as being indefinite. In response to this rejection, and as discussed during the personal interview, Applicants have amended claims 1, 18 and 20 to indicate that the improved radiation exchange is compared with an uncoated interior surface.

Claims 1-4, 16-20 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Yoneda et al. '702 and claims 1, 2, 7, 9 and 16-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Coleman '289.

These rejections are traversed in light of the above amendment. Claims 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Yoneda et al. '702 in view of Allemand '034 and Fix '088 with an indication being given that these dependent claims showed examples of a thermal emission factor of less than 0.5.

Applicants have amended each of independent claims 1, 18 and 20 to include the subject matter of the now cancelled claims 13 and 14 and submit that the claims are patentable over the references.

The reference to Yoneda et al. does not disclose that there is a thermal emission factor of less than 0.5 and it is submitted that even if it is assumed that the secondary references to Allemand '034 and Fix '088 have a disclosure of a material that is less than 0.5 for a thermal emission coefficient, the combination is not obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Yoneda et al. uses a material in order to provide a clean surface so that it is intended to provide a surface which prevents adhesion of dust soil etc. There is no indication that a thermal coefficient material of a value less than 0.5 has any relationship to a material which is able to be easily cleaned. In other words, there is no reason why one skilled in the art looking at the reference to Yoneda et al. would have any expectations that using a material with a coefficient of thermal emission less than 0.5 would have any effect on the Yoneda et al. surface to be easily cleaned or to avoid dust or dirt.

Applicants further submit that it is not able to be determined that the secondary references illustrate a material which has an emission coefficient of less than 0.5. However, the primary contention is that there is a lack of teaching that the references could be combined or should be combined or would be of any use to the primary objective of the reference to Yoneda et al. which is to provide a product which can be applied to a surface to keep it clean.

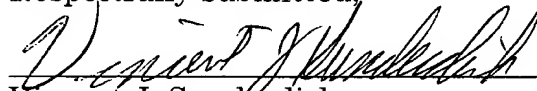
Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this application containing claims 1-12 and 15-22 be allowed and be passed to issue as each of the remaining dependent claims depend from and contain all of the limitations of either independent claims 1, 18 or 20.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080404.49983US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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